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Page 10, line 22: Please delete "incorporated herewith by reference".

Page 11, line 10: Please change "Servers" to --Server--.

Page 12, line 24: Please change "performances are" to --performance is--.

Page 15, line 2: Please insert --the-- after "where".

Page 15, line 8: Please change "the" (second occupance) to --The--.

Page 17, line 11: Please insert --a-- before "normal".

Page 19, line 5: Please insert --a-- before "Web".

Page 19, line 25: Please change "performances are" to --performance is--.

Page 28 (abstract): Please delete the paragraph indication between lines 12 and 13. Please also delete the reference to Figure 6.

## In the Claims:

Claim 1 (Once amended) A method for dynamically selecting a firewall server [(603)]

for a web client [(601)], in particular a web browser [(601)], in a Transmission

Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) network comprising the a plurality of

firewall servers [(503)], said method comprising the steps of:

measuring performance and availability of each firewall server [(603)] using

6 measurement probes [(607)]; and,

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1	Claim 5 (once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding		
2	claims] claim 1 or 3 wherein the step of measuring the availability of each firewall		
3	server using measurement probes [(607)] comprises the further step of:		
4	detecting failures on each firewall server; <u>and</u> ,		
5	excluding firewall servers in failure from the step of selecting a firewall server.		
1	Claim 6 (Once amended) The method according to [any one of the preceding		
2	claims] claim 1 or 3 wherein said firewall server [(603)] is a proxy server [(304)] or		
3	[/and] a socks server [(3 1)].		
<u> </u>	Claim 7 (Once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding		
<u>[</u> ] 2	claims] <u>claim 1 or 3</u> comprising the further steps of:		
=======================================	$\cdot$		
	processing performance and availability measurements [(607)] from a single		
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	universal resource locator (URL) system [(606)]; <u>and,</u>		
<b>5</b>			
[] [] 5	dynamically creating a configuration file based on the performance and		
<u>1</u> 6	availability measurements, preferably in the Javascript language, on said universal		
5 7 6 7 5	resource locator (URL) system [(606)] for selection said firewall server [(603)].		
1	Claim 8 (Once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding		
2	claims] claim 1 $\phi$ r 3 wherein the step of dynamically creating a configuration file is		
3	processed by a common gateway interface (CGI) [(608)] on said universal resource		
4	locator (URL) \$ystem [(606)].		
1	Claim 9 (Once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding		
2	claims] claims 1 or 3 wherein the step of selecting a firewall server [(603)] comprises		
3	the further step of [: .} downloading the configuration file from the universal resource		
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locator (URL) system [(	606) to the web client	, in particular to the	] web browser
[(601)].	/		

Claim 10 (Once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 3 wherein the steps of measuring performance and availability and of dynamically selecting a firewall server [(603)] are periodically processed in the universal resource locator (URL) system [(606)] and the configuration file created by the common gateway interface [(608)] (CGI) is periodically downloaded to the web client [(601)].

Claim 11 (Once amended). The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 3 comprising the further steps of:

pre-selecting a backup firewall server [(603)] in a background process; and,

switching to \$aid backup firewall server in case of failure of the selected firewall server.

Claim 12 (Once annended). The method according to [any one of the preceding claims] claim 1 or 3 wherein the step of selecting a firewall server according to performance and availability measurements comprises the further step of [: .] selecting the firewall server according to the Internet Protocol (IP) address.

Claim 13. Please delete this claim without prejudice.

Claim 14 (new). A program product for dynamically selecting a firewall server for a web client, in/particular a web browser, in a Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TQP/IP) network comprising the a plurality of firewall servers, said program product comprising the steps of:

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programmatidally measuring performance and availability of each firewall server using measurement probes; and,

dynamically, using programmatic means, selecting a firewall server according to the performance and availability measurements.

Claim 15 (new). The program product according to claim 1 wherein the step of measuring the performance and availability of each firewall server using measurement probes comprises the further step of programmatically measuring the response time needed for retrieving from a web server known information, in particular one or a plurality of known web pages, through each firewall server.

Claim 16 (new). The program product according to claim 15 wherein the step of measuring the response time comprises the further steps of:

programmatically establishing a connection with the web server through each firewall server;

programmatically retrieving the one or a plurality of known web pages from the web server; and,

programmatically checking that the retrieved one or plurality of web pages contain one or a plurality of known keywords.

Claim 17 (new) The program product according to claim 14 or 16 wherein the step of measuring the performance of each firewall server using measurement probes comprises the further step of:

programmatically comparing each firewall server said measured response time with previous measured response times; and,